

Fall 8-15-2002

## ENG 4950-002: Literary History and Bibliography

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English 4950: **Literary History and Bibliography**  
fall 2002

Instructor: Richard Sylvia

Office: 3775 Coleman

Office Hours: TR 8:30 – 9:30 am; 3:30 – 4:30pm; and by appt.

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**Texts:** Abrams, et al., The Norton Anthology of English Literature, 7th ed., 2 vol.  
Bradley, et al., The American Tradition in Literature, 6th ed., 2 vol.

**Course Goals and Objectives:** Required of all English majors, this course is an overview of the major developments in English and, with much less coverage, American Literature, from their beginnings to the present century. The goal is to strengthen your understanding of each literary period, and also your understanding of how literary periods relate. Class time will be devoted to occasional lectures on political, social, and philosophical issues, but more frequently to the discussion of assigned readings and class reports. This course is also an opportunity for you to demonstrate the reading, writing, and research skills you have developed as an English major, so you will be required to complete a series of writing assignments designed to reinforce your understanding of selected methods of literary study.

This is a writing-intensive course. You may submit a paper from this class as part of your EWP. For more information, visit the assessment website:

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

English Department Statement on Plagiarism: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism – 'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own original work' (Random House Dictionary) – has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

**Course Requirements and Grading:**

careful preparation of the readings as assigned  
regular participation in class discussions -- 10%  
a brief class report on an assigned topic – 15%\*  
several brief writing assignments -- 25%  
a mid-term examination -- 25%  
a final examination -- 25%

You must complete **all** of the requirements above to pass the course.

**Tentative Schedule**  
***Old English Period (500 - 1066)***

Aug. 27: course introduction

Aug. 29: period background lecture; Beowulf

Sept. 3: Beowulf

Sept. 5: Beowulf; *report on the O.E. elegy\**

***Middle English Period (1066 - 1500)***

Sept. 10: period background lecture; Popular Ballads (2882-2888): "Lord Randall," "Barbara Allan," "The Wife of Usher's Well," "The Three Ravens," "Sir Patrick Spens," "The Bonny Earl of Murry"; Piers Plowman (317-325)

Sept. 12: Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales: "The General Prologue"; *report on the Gawain poet\**

Sept. 17: Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales: "The Miller's Prologue and Tale"; *report on the M.E. Mystery Plays\**

Sept. 19: Chaucer; *report on Margery Kempe\**

***The Renaissance (1500 - 1660)***

Sept. 24: period background lecture; Marlowe, The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus

Sept. 26: Spenser, The Faerie Queene Book I, Canto 1; *report on Shakespeare's history plays\**

Oct. 1: Wyatt, "The long love that in my thought doth harbor"; Surrey, "Love, that doth reign and live within my thought"; Sidney, "Loving in truth, and fain in verse my love to show"; Shakespeare, "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day," "My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun"

Oct. 3: Mary (Sidney) Herbert, Psalms 52 and 139; *report on the English Bible\**

Oct. 8: Mary Wroth, "Pamphilia to Amphilanthus"; *report on George Herbert\**

Oct. 10: Donne, "The Flea," "Going to Bed," "Good Friday, 1613"; Jonson, "Inviting a Friend to Dinner," "To Penshurst," "Song: To Celia"; *report on Thomas Hobbes\**

Oct. 15: Milton, Paradise Lost I, II; *report on the Cavalier poets\**

Oct. 17: Milton, Paradise Lost IV, IX; *report on Andrew Marvell\**

### ***Early American Literature (1660 - 1800)***

Oct. 22: Bradley 3-10; Edwards, Personal Narrative; Franklin, The Autobiography

Oct. 24: **mid-term exam**

### ***The Restoration and Eighteenth Century (1660-1780)***

Oct. 29: John Wilmot, "The Disabled Debauchee," "The Imperfect Enjoyment"; Aphra Behn, "The Disappointment"

Oct. 31: Swift, Gulliver's Travels Part I; *report on Restoration drama\**

Nov. 5: Pope, The Rape of the Lock; *report on Johnson and Boswell\**; *report on Mary Wollstonecraft\**

### ***The Romantic Period (1789 - 1830)***

Nov. 7: period background lecture; Wordsworth, "Tintern Abbey," "Ode: Intimations of Immortality"; *report on Blake's illuminated texts\**

Nov. 12: Shelley, "Ode to the West Wind"; Keats, "Eve of St. Agnes"; *report on Mary Shelley\**; *report on Byron\**

### ***The Victorian Period (1830 - 1901)***

Nov. 14: period background lecture; Carlyle, Past and Present; Mill, Autobiography; Arnold, Culture and Anarchy

Nov. 19: Tennyson, "The Kraken," "Mariana," "The Lady of Shalott," "The Lotus-Eaters," "Ulysses"; Browning, "Porphyria's Lover," "Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister," "My Last Duchess"; *report on Darwin\**

Nov. 21: Dante Gabriel Rossetti, "The Blessed Damozel," The House of Life; Christina Rossetti, "Goblin Market"; *report on George Eliot\**

Nov. 26, 28: Thanksgiving break

### ***American Literature (1800 - 1900)***

Dec. 3: Bradley 413-419; Emerson, "Nature"; Thoreau, "Civil Disobedience," "Life Without Principle"; *report on Frederick Douglass\**

Dec. 5: Hawthorne, "Wakefield"; Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher"; *report on Margaret Fuller\**

***Modern British and American Literature (1900 - 1950)***

Dec. 10: Yeats, "Among School Children"; *report on Hardy\**; *report on Virginia Woolf\**

Dec. 12: Bradley, 66-69; Whitman, "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry"; *report on Dickinson\**

**final exam**; date and time to be announced